

# NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

THE UNITED STATES, TEXAS, AND MEXICO.

If she [Mexico] be so infuriated as to send her miserable troops to Texas, where she is the Rio Grande—then we will have her troops, and her soldiers, they will curse the day on which they provoked the vengeance of the United States.—Union, Sept. 12.

We argued, in our last notice of the Texas question, that Texas claims to be a former State of the Mexican Confederacy; to have been an independent and sovereign party to that league; to have been, under it, temporarily united with the larger (that is, more populous) State of Coahuila—but not consolidated with her in territory, nor any further than this, that their local government was committed to a common Congress, until such time as Texas should grow up into a population entitling her to become a State entirely separate. She further asserts that when Mexico allowed a military usurper to overthrow the Constitution (that of 1824) to which she (Texas) was a party, she stood out for that compact, upheld by arms her rights under it, and, resisting the usurper, established her (Texas's) separate nationality. Texas, then, upon all her own allegations, is, fundamentally, the ex-Mexican State of that name, originally formed of a territory constituted by Mexican laws, upon a soil of limits defined too by Mexico, just as much as those of Iowa or Wisconsin must be by the United States, which erected them into Territories. In a word, Texas is, upon her own showing, not a mere casual political formation, lately sprung up out of various consenting regions and populations before separate, but a public, legal being, continued from that which was a member of the Mexican federation, and, truly to speak, not changed, but which refused to change, when its associates of that compact allowed themselves to be sunk, by SANTA ANNA, out of separate States into departments and dependencies of a central Government. These are, beyond any possibility of question, her own solemn and uniform suppositions, the very basis on which she places all that entitles her to the name of a legitimate civil existence, a nation, not an accidental herd of men. Her Declaration of Independence, her Constitution, the whole series of her public acts and annals say this, and can say nothing else without impeaching themselves.

Now, see the inevitable consequences: By what possibility, if these things be true, can she assert herself to comprehend large districts and populations, which were within other Mexican States at the time when she separated; which never voluntarily joined her; which she never reduced by arms; which were never ceded to her? There is no original jurisdiction to be set up, and no subsequent force or consent: how, then, can it be pretended that they are hers?

She stood out, she says, upon her rights as one of the Mexican States. Well, those rights were, of certain laws upon a certain soil. She cannot then claim, upon legal grounds or those of common sense, any thing beyond those rights and that soil. If Mexico refused the former, she had a right to throw off the Mexican government; but no right to carry off from Mexico what was not her own, and desired not to be hers.

Now, what is the fact? The Rio Grande never was a boundary granted by Mexico. It never was the boundary of any of the contiguous Mexican States or provinces. On all the maps belonging to the date of the Texan revolution it will be seen that the four Mexican districts lying on the Rio Grande stretch far across it. Towards its head is New Mexico, which every body knows to run far on this side of it. Next along its course comes Chihuahua, which traverses it and extends several hundred miles northwest of Texas. Next lower is Coahuila, which meets Texas on its west, also far within the Rio Grande. And, lastly, Tamaulipas, crossing that river near the coast, runs up and occupies the entire peninsula between that river and the Nueces.

All this is distinctly and directly avowed in Mr. KENNEDY's book and on his maps; and here let us inform the government and editors who affect to speak of him as "an English Consul at Galveston," that they only, by this loose conjecture, and by their intimations as to the hostile character of his book towards Texas, show their utter ignorance of the man and of his work—a work much the exactest, the most skillful, and the most friendly to Texas and her cause yet published by any body. And Kennedy says, (pages 12, 13,) in addition to the passage the other day cited embodying an extract from Almonte's report:

"Within the limits of the Republic of Texas, as defined by the boundary act of December 19, 1836, are included parts of Tamaulipas, Coahuila, and New Mexico." And, after a brief description of their soil, he concludes the paragraph thus: "It is to be remarked that the title of the Republic of Texas to lands extraneous to the boundaries of the State at the period of the revolution has yet to be formally perfected by treaty with Mexico." For all practical purposes, however, the limits have been determined by the act of the Texan Congress in 1836.

The last sentence, like that last in our citation from him on Saturday, is enough to show, by its complete adoption of Texas reasoning and Texas claims the most absurd, how hearty and entire are Mr. K.'s partialities—partialities which do nothing to him from correctly stating a historical and geographical fact, nor even a clear and cogent principle of National Law; but which lead him to treat as decisive against both an empty law, a conquest by enactment, which could just as well have given to Texas Louisiana or Florida as what it conferred upon itself, with just the same right, out of Coahuila or other Mexican States.

For, if, on the one hand, what is now Texas was by us once asserted to be a part of Louisiana and to extend to the Rio Grande; and if, for this excellent reason, Texas is entitled to whatever portions of Mexican provinces cross that stream, why should she not, in the same manner, as Louisiana again, on the east as well as west, cross the Sabine, leap over the Mississippi and go to the limits of Florida? Nay, why stop there, if an act of her Legislature can create for her territorial rights over countries never otherwise acquired? If the President of the United States has a right, upon such a title as this, to look on Texas as extending to the Rio Bravo, why would he not be equally bound to recognise a like Texan claim to Louisiana and to withdraw all our authorities from it? Plainly, he could just as well do one as the other—except, perhaps, that the

Joint Resolution of Annexation is a later and directer bar to his including Tamaulipas, &c. in Texas than Louisiana.

Thus are the pretensions of the Executive for Texas completely exploded and exposed by the geography, the public acts, the constant allegations of Texas itself. Nor are these claims less confounded and overset by other remarkable assumptions of its own, which the Executive has hitherto hooked to them.

If Texas has, over the country to the Rio Grande, any such rights of territory as the Executive puts into action by marching troops into it; if the sovereignty, the eminent domain is in her, not Mexico, then the right of Texas implies inevitably an equal and correlative duty of the Executive to put it in action completely, if at all. It is exclusive, if it has any positive, present, substantive existence. It must be enforced entirely, if at all. If, because Texas has said that all to the Rio Grande is hers, we are to take possession for her of parts of Tamaulipas and Coahuila, how are we not to take possession of half of New Mexico? Both are hers by precisely the same law, the same right; both, then, are included in the same duty. By abstaining from either, do we not falsify both? In abandoning all the claim to Santa Fe, (or New Mexico), have we not confessed that there is no claim to Tamaulipas? For the claims are inseparably the same.

But, to come down to the immediate quarter in which alone the Executive, by this self-contradiction, declares its intention to act—mark how it is officially announced that he is to proceed in the region (Tamaulipas) between the Nueces and the Rio Bravo. The Executive manifesto, which we yesterday copied from the Union of the 11th, says:

"We repeat it—we desire peace with Mexico; but it must be an honorable, a permanent peace. If she strikes us, she is gone. If she dares to carry out her brazen threats—if she ventures to cross the Rio Grande with reinforcements to any little armed post which Mexico may now occupy on the east side of the river, General Taylor will attempt to prevent him; blood must flow—war must ensue. Those armed posts we may not disturb for the present; for our Government acts strictly on the defensive. But let not Arista, or Paredes, or Filisola, or any of the Mexican commanders affect to cross the river, under the pretence of reinforcing the post which is in no danger, but really for the purpose of occupying a territory which the wandering commissioner of Great Britain is said to have estimated (we speak of the mere temporary occupancy) at ten millions of dollars. Still more; if he crosses that river for the purpose of striking at our own military force on its banks, we warn Mexico of the consequences. She must then expect immediate resistance and open war."

Again, in its paper of the 13th, a sort of sequel or supplementary manifesto winds up as follows:

"Let there be no mistake about this matter. The Rio del Norte is our boundary line. The Rio del Norte will continue to be our boundary; and neither the arms of the Mexicans, nor the tongues of their diplomatists, nor the puny pens of the National Intelligencer, will be sufficient to remove our boundary east of that river. There our boundary is planted, and the bullets of the Mexicans, nor the paper shot of their friends in this country, will be able to shake the determination of our Executive upon this question."

We call upon the country to mark these last significant words; to note that this extraordinary step, involving aggressive war the most wanton and needless even for the purposes of annexation—may, fit only to endanger them—is boldly heralded to the country as the EXECUTIVE DETERMINATION—a determination NOT TO BE SHAKEN! This is the PRESIDENT'S will; and they who dare to question the right or the sense of this SOVEREIGN FIAT are TRAITORS in foreign pay! What a compliment to our people and our institutions! Men, it appears, cannot be induced, in this country, to stand up for the Laws and the Constitution, unless purchased to do so by foreign gold! So says the Executive organ. Does any body in the press attempt, at whatever hazard of venal clamor and obloquy, to point public attention to flagrant Presidential usurpations? That fact brands him according to the Union for an Englishman, or foreigner of some sort! For this patriotic organ seems firmly convinced that no American has the spirit to denounce the Executive conduct which we have lately opposed! We wish the Administration joy of an apologist who cannot defend them without becoming the universal calumniator of his countrymen! But let us proceed to scrutinize more minutely the measure, the means, the proceedings of the Executive, which are to be pursued under the behest above recited from the Union.

General TAYLOR is to occupy, and he is not to occupy, the country beyond the Nueces! He is to leave undisturbed the Mexican posts already there; but if a man, or a convoy, or a despatch is sent to them, he is to declare war: for that power must now be conceded to his discretion, in addition to the Executive right of calling forth the militia! The territory is the United States, if a Mexican soldier wades the Rio Bravo; but it is not the United States as long as Mexican troops merely stay permanently in their own posts there! Should some of those stationary troops refuse to allow an American party to cut off their communications without firing on them, that, we suppose, is no war; for war, it seems, by the Executive's high decision, consists only in marching troops into the territory, and not in keeping them regularly there! The soil too, is ours; but the posts and the settlements are Mexico's, and must not be disturbed! Meantime, to fill the country all around them with troops and establish a general blockade about them is not disturbing them! Nor would it be, if a high wall of circumvallation were built by General Taylor around every Mexican fort! We fear, however, that the ignorant Mexicans may not understand this ingenious Presidential plan of leaving them "undisturbed." Meantime, we are curious to know two things of that learned Theban who so admirably explains for the Executive this pacific war, this amiable blockade, this hospitable attention to foreign troops holding fastnesses within our jurisdiction: first, if Texas has had the soil under jurisdiction, how come Mexican forts there? and, secondly, what duty or what right commands or warrants our treating it as war for a Mexican force to cross the Rio Grande, but not war to be on this side without crossing? Or, once again, is it permitted, without being a traitor, to inquire, why, if the Mexicans have no right on this side of the Rio Bravo, their troops are suffered to stay there? and why, if they have a right to be there, for them to cross thither is an act of war, which is, by the "unshaken Executive determination," to be at once visited with the universal devastation of Mexico, quite to the "halls of Montezuma!"

It cannot be necessary for us, in addressing readers such as ours, intelligent, well-informed, in whom the moral sense is not deadened by blind party devotion, nor yet by the lust of war or of the plunder of neighboring nations, to expatiate on the ferocity and lawlessness of the purposes avowed by the government paper, or the levity and flippancy, almost equally condemnable, in which they are announced. But, as true patriots, who would feel as a wound any stain upon the escutcheon of our country, we must not be content with merely deprecating the rash counsels by which the Executive is now goaded, as it appears, to desperate resolves, but, so long as the privilege of speech and of the press is left to us, must persist in our endeavors, by appeals to facts and to reason, to dissuade our rulers from the execution of those resolves: in the execution of which purpose we proceed briefly to show, in addition to what we have argued geographically and historically, that not only does the rightful boundary of Texas not extend to the Rio Grande, but that this matter has not been otherwise understood by our own Government, at any time until now, that, under color of a misapprehension, real or pretended, of a geographical fact, it is proclaimed to the world by the Executive organ, that if the authorities of Mexico dare to send a man across a river which runs through four of the indispensable provinces of Mexico, "blood must flow!"

As long ago as in the first year of the administration of President JACKSON, when he made the attempt to obtain from Mexico, by purchase, the possession of Texas, it is matter of record that he knew and recognised the Nueces to be the true western boundary of Texas, and only by way of a safe boundary desired to have the line extended as far west as the middle of the desert between the Nueces and the Rio del Norte, or Rio Grande. His proposition for the acquisition of Texas included no part of New Mexico, Chihuahua, Coahuila, or Tamaulipas, large portions of all of which lie on this side (east) of the Rio Grande, and never did form part of Texas proper.

Again: At the moment of submitting to the Senate the "Treaty of Annexation," a despatch was forwarded by a Special Messenger to the Representative of the United States in Mexico, from which the following extracts plainly show the knowledge of the Executive that the Republic of Texas had no title whatever to the territory "extraneous" of the ancient limits of that province, and that the territory so claimed to be part of Texas belonged to Mexico, and must be negotiated for with her:

"You are enjoined by the President," says Mr. Secretary CALHOUN in his despatch, "to assure the Mexican Government that it is his desire to settle all questions between the two countries which may grow out of this treaty, or any other cause, on the most liberal and satisfactory terms, including that of boundary; and with that view the Minister who has been recently appointed will be shortly sent with adequate powers."

"You will finally assure the Government of Mexico that the Government of the United States would have been happy, if circumstances had permitted it, to act in concurrence with that of Mexico in taking the step it has; but with all its respect for Mexico, and anxious desire that the two countries should continue on friendly terms, it could not make what it believed might involve the safety of the Union itself depend on the contingency of obtaining the previous consent of Mexico. But while it could not with a due regard to the safety of the Union do that, it has taken every precaution to make the terms of the treaty as little objectionable to Mexico as possible; and, among others, has left the boundary of Texas without specification, so that what the line of boundary should be might be an open question, to be fairly and fully discussed and settled according to the rights of each, and the mutual interest and security of the two countries."

In the debate in the Senate Mr. BENTON, as we have lately shown, distinctly proclaimed the fraudulent character of the treaty, by which, under color of annexing Texas as an independent Government to the United States, the Executive was undertaking to "annex" certain provinces and territories of Mexico, with which Texas had no connexion of any sort, and against which Texas had very recently made war and reprisals as being the enemy's territory and population.

We may here again cite additional testimony by the Missouri Senator as the probably best authority on this subject of any man in the United States, if not of any man living, no one having studied the subject more laboriously or intensely than he for a period of more than thirty years. In a speech delivered by him at a great "Mass Meeting of the Democracy" of his State, at Booneville, on the 17th July, 1844, (when his re-election to the Senate was a question before the people,) he said:

"TEXAS IN ALL ITS PROPER EXTENT—in its whole length and breadth, from the Sabine to the west of the Nueces, and from the Gulf of Mexico to the Red River—contains but one hundred and thirty-five thousand square miles, equal to eighty-four million of acres; and to get the remainder of the quantity of two hundred millions of acres, they have to count the wild country under the dominion of Comanche, Indians, and the left bank of the Rio Grande from head to mouth—all of which is under Mexican dominion, and great part of which has been settled and granted above two hundred years."

The fact must be familiar to all our readers that, after the rejection of the proposed Treaty of Annexation, the late Administration again instructed the Minister of the United States to attempt to buy from Mexico her right, thus admitted, to the territory which formed no part of Texas proper, but upon which the present Administration, without any authority or warrant, is marching the troops of the United States, and which the government paper is threatening to deluge with blood should the Government of Mexico presume to exercise any rights of sovereignty over it. Every reader will remember the *nativité* with which our Minister, Mr. SHANNON, referred to this instruction, in the following passage of his Letter to the Mexican Minister of Foreign Relations, on the 8th of November last, after his rupture with that functionary:

"The undersigned takes this occasion to say, that should the relations of peace and good will be disturbed, or should the Government of Mexico fail hereafter to receive the compensation which the Government of the United States, for the sake of preserving those relations, would willingly have given for a territory over which Mexico does not now, and cannot hereafter, exercise a jurisdiction, the Mexican people must charge the loss which they will thus sustain to its Excellency Mr. Rejon and the Government by whose order his notes of the 31st ultimo and of the 6th instant were written."

The compensation was to be made, of course, for territory to which Texas had no claim; the idea of compensating Mexico for territory not belonging to her being too absurd to have been for a moment entertained.

And, lastly, the Joint Resolution of Annexation itself plainly intimates the conviction of Congress on this subject when it declares that the annexation of Texas shall be "subject to the adjustment by this Government of all questions of boundary that may

arise," not with Texas, but "with other Governments," meaning of course Mexico. When Congress has thus spoken, and declared that all such questions shall be the subject of peaceable negotiation (adjustment) with other Governments, what right has the Executive to undertake to "adjust them" at the cannon's mouth?

## STRICT CONSTRUCTION, AGAIN.

Every body knows the holy horror, the righteous rage with which the professors of Abstractionism, the Ultra-Republicans, the Progressive Democrats, who subvert some old or find some new principle in the Constitution every little while, look upon the old Federal latitudinarianism of deriving powers from that instrument by implication. They are shocked at the old idea of the Government's borrowing any right from the phrase in the preamble to the Constitution which speaks of its "providing for the common defence and promoting the general welfare," in which and in some other like instances of loose interpretation, practised by various parties among us, the Abstractionists were perfectly right; but that they have continually proved, by their own facility of much more daring interpretation, that their objections were mere special cavils against particular abuses by others; that they themselves were at least as ready as any body to commit like assumptions; and that, however just in themselves, the exceptions, as taken by them, were utterly insincere, were a mere pretence, under cover of which they hoped to get and to use the very power, for using which they had blackened others. In a word, they have constantly shown themselves greater latitudinarians than the old "General Welfare" men; far more Federalists than the "Black Cockade" men; Disunionists, to whom these the Hartford Convention were loyal; Nullifiers, to whom they of South Carolina were loyal; and so on, and so on, since baptised them "honest" and "conservative."

Need we refer, for examples of these strange, forced, and subversive interpretations of the Constitution, within the last few years, by the so-called Strict-Constructionists, to more than a few great cases? We have seen a President of the United States assume, under the mere authority of the phrase which directs him to "see that the laws be faithfully executed," the right to say what laws are constitutional; which laws he will execute; and we have seen the "Strict-Constructionists" sustain that strange addition of a high judicial to the Executive power. We have seen that officer, by his personal war upon the old United States Bank, the removal of the deposits, the claim to control as his officer the head of the Financial system of the country, and all his other measures for "reforming" at his pleasure the money circulation, wrest from Congress a large and a controlling share of the legislative power, especially in the matter of revenue and the fiscal operations; and all this, again, we have seen "strict construction" not only sanction but hail. We have seen the same functionary crush with his arbitrary *Veto* what laws he pleased, and where he could not otherwise destroy them, openly strangle them; by pocketing and keeping the bills passed by Congress; and "strict construction" has found nothing amiss in it. At this instant, to pass over many intermediate cases, the Executive has in reality proclaimed and says that in a certain contingency he will wage a war, entirely of his own origination, if it arises from our taking possession of the country beyond the Nueces. His organ says, and his purpose thus announced remains uncontradicted; so that the declaration has really become his own. All this is done not only with an utter omission to take any measure for consulting Congress, but in direct contravention of the plain intentions of Congress as shown in the Joint Resolution of Annexation; and so bent is "strict construction" on backing this shocking usurpation, that if a public journal dares to exhibit the alarming fact of such a stretch of power, "Strict Construction" sets up its din and blows all its rancor's horns against that journal, in a peal to which that of Gideon's trumpets at Jericho was gentle and melodious.

Not for its importance, but for its beauty and by way of keeping up the historical series of the act and precedents of strict constructionism, we bring before our readers, from the great repository of hyper-stringent interpretation (the Union) the latest instance of the manner in which Abstractionism can force powers for the Government out of nothing. In its paper dated Saturday night, it has an extract from the *Richmond Whig*, with the following commentary and authority:

"ANOTHER CIRCULAR.—Secretary Walker has issued another circular, (but this time in conformity to an act of Congress,) calling for information. By the act referred to, the Secretary was authorized to employ three of the Government clerks in collecting, arranging, and classifying such statistical information as may be procured, showing each year the condition of the agriculture, manufactures, domestic trade, currency, and banks of the several States and Territories. It is stated by the Union that the circular has been generally circulated among the officers of the Federal Government, as well as among the Governors of the States and Territories, the presidents of colleges, &c. &c.—*Richmond Whig*."

The Secretary had ample power to issue the other circular, and propound any queries for obtaining information to guide him in the execution of his duties. We have already demonstrated this proposition in the authorities we have produced. But if the tariff Whigs want more, we have it at hand, in the 27th section of

"An act to provide revenue from imports, and to change and modify existing laws imposing duties on imports, and for other purposes, (passed August 30, 1842.)"

"Sec. 27. And he further enacted, That it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury, annually, to ascertain whether, for the year ending on the 30th day of June next preceding, the duty on any article has exceeded thirty-five per centum ad valorem on the average wholesale market value of such articles in the several ports of the United States, for the preceding year; and if so, he shall report a tabular statement of such articles and excess of duty to Congress, at the commencement of the next annual session thereof, with such observations and recommendations as he may deem necessary for the improvement of the revenue."

It is his duty to report annually on any subject which he may deem necessary for the improvement of the revenue; and therefore he must obtain the necessary information for that purpose.—Union.

The words of the law underscored above are so emphasized by the Government paper; and the last paragraph is that paper's special interpretation of them into an authority to report on any subject which he may deem necessary for the improvement of the revenue."

Here is a beautiful after-thought of authority for the Secretary's proceedings! Congress directs him to ascertain and report a precise and limited fact—the single fact of what articles have, during the previous fiscal year, paid a duty exceeding thirty-five per cent. on their price in our markets. It directs no general inquiry, no other inquiry. Of course, as to the special one, it was willing to have, in his report on the articles found to have paid high duties, his suggestion of the modified rate in these cases deemed expedient. Every one will see that the final phrase in italics has no intention but to authorize this. Yet here, by the very sort of interpretation which strict construction denounces, is this loose incidental phrase erected into a general power!

Now, what is the rule? A power can only be got by direct grant: a loose phrase cannot carry it in any case. Apart from the special direction, this phrase would be nothing, unless there were joined with it something better to show, by definition and description, the object intended to be effected; for the Congress meant to give a general power, it would have given it more clearly. But the phrase is a mere dependency and connexion of that expressing the special purpose of the law; and none but an Abstractionist's word-torturing would ever think of building upon it a substantive, independent, superior power.

## FROM OUR EUROPEAN CORRESPONDENT.

PARIS, AUGUST 19, 1845.

## RANDOM NOTES.

The official *Mondeur* of the 16th announces that a letter from His Excellency General PIERROT makes known to His Majesty Louis PHILIPPE, that the General has become President of Havre, and confirms the appointment of Joseph GAGNIER and Aristide ELIAS as Envoys Extraordinary and Ministers Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Hayti to the Court of France!

Some of the French departments propose the establishment of a corps of agricultural engineers, to be educated specially in the way of the engineers for the mines. They would be afterwards distributed throughout France for the superintendence or aid of improvements in tillage and husbandry.

Of four recent elections to the Chamber of Deputies, three accrue to the Ministerial party. The license law has considerably diminished the number of legal voters in Paris, who have never exceeded twenty-three thousand.

RISLEY & SANDS, called the Americans, are again the marvels of Paris, with their supple children. We may wonder at the exercises of the latter, but cannot respect the fathers who have thus trained and fashioned them. It is a wretched trade.—The Ojibbe-way Indians are advertised as having succeeded the lowly in Mr. CATLIN'S rooms. Their denomination in the French papers is, *Ojibbe-Was*.

The French mortgage system (*système hypothécaire*) is in the hands of an able committee of inquiry, appointed by the Minister of Justice. It abounds with inveterate and oppressive abuses and anomalies.

LUCIAN BONAPARTE'S Narrative of the Revolution of the 18th Brumaire, recently published by his family, is much criticised in the journals. There are striking contradictions between this narrative and Napoleon's account of the same event, in the *Mémoires* dictated at St. Helena.

It having been affirmed in the Opposition papers that punishments of a peculiar and very cruel description were inflicted on the French soldiery in Algeria, Marshal Bugeaud has sent a report on the subject to the Department of War, in which he acknowledges that modes of torture bearing certain nicknames were employed for refractory delinquents, but, *exceptuement*, he admits, besides, that in the marches and expeditions, the grottoes, and the *silbes*, or Arab excavations for burying grain, were used for imprisonment, there being no ordinary dungeons or jails. He tells the Minister of War: "After all, punishments are very rare with us; this, though contrary to received ideas in France, and even to your own language in the *Chamber of Peers*, is not the less the strict truth." Orders have been issued to the French expeditions to kill only combatants and to make as many prisoners as possible. Bugeaud says, in a late despatch: "Even should Abd-el-kader and his adherents abandon the struggle, there will be insurrections from time to time."

The Directors of the *Théâtre Français* claim forty thousand dollars damages from Mademoiselle PRESSY, a charming actress, for accepting an engagement at St. Petersburg, in violation of her engagements at home. The Manager of the Italian Opera in Paris has obtained six thousand francs' damages from Madame GRIFF for refusing a part allotted to her. Her salary was ten thousand francs per month, and a full benefit.

The French journal called "the Algeria," states that the Emperor of Morocco withheld the *exequatur* from Mr. CANA, the Agent of the United States for Tangiers, but consented to his landing as a simple individual. We may doubt concerning the refusal of the *exequatur*.

A circular of the Archbishop of Paris, dated 12th instant, directs public prayers for a favorable change of weather, in reference to the fruits of the earth—*ad postulantem arvis serenitatem*. As yet the same "cold and humid spell," which the circular laments prevails in this meridian. The London Standard, of same date, informed us that the weather in France was exceedingly fine!

Six recent convictions for parental incest are recorded in the Department of the Seine; no one of them, however, so atrocious as the recent case of a clergyman in England. Last week was concluded, at a Court of Assizes, the trial of a band of thirty-men, women, and boys, associated for as hideous and disgusting profligacy as human nature can perpetrate. "Combinations of thieves and burglars, more or less numerous each, have been likewise under trial and sentence. Men and females of respectable exterior and in respectable spheres of life, often from part of the very worst of these associations for debauchery and rapine."

The *Courrier Français* reports from official documents that the agricultural population (European) of all Algeria does not amount to seven thousand souls; that the colony is far from raising enough for its subsistence; that in 1844 an importation from abroad of 700,000 hectolitres of grain and of more than thirty-five millions pounds of flour was necessary; that, in the event of a maritime war, the colony and troops would be starved; that Marshal Bugeaud has expended in the five years past five hundred millions of francs, and that the effective of his armies has never been less than eighty thousand men.

The central official committee on steam engines appointed the chief engineer of the mines to pursue experiments for determining a mode of obviating or curing the smoke of boilers and engines. It is stated in the *Mondeur* that he has entirely succeeded. The operation was on Belgian coal, which emits the most smoke. The smoke is consumed (burnt) by means of the abundant introduction of air. Hereafter steam factories will not be uncomfortable neighbors; the black and thick smoke gives place to a light and whitish vapor. London may rejoice. The great boilers in the royal manufactories of tobacco are to be subjected to new experiments. Government will soon publish a practical manual for the service of iron and other factories in which coal is used.

Versailles is now the rendezvous of many hundreds of the present year's contingent of conscripts. These groups have always fixed my attention, so many of them seeming mere boys—all raw, rustic, or clownish in the extreme degree. The condition of the peasantry and the classes on whom the conscription chiefly presses, in this department of Seine and Oise, is far better than that of a number of the other departments. Yet I have, within the fortnight past, seen files of conscripts—a hundred and fifty or more together—arriving in their crude state, whose attire, gait, whole aspect and march, were at least as wretched as those of any gang of negroes whom I ever beheld under any circumstances in the United States; and I was sufficiently familiar with six of the slave States. In a singularly short time these levies are wonderfully metamorphosed; their first changes of person and dress, and their drilling, serve to amuse infinitely the older soldiers of this large garrison. The recruit becomes in his first twelve months easy in his uniform and exercises, and quite a spruce military beau, laughs in his turn at the cloddishness and tatterdemaldions of the next year. Lord PALMERSTON, in his alarm speech of the 30th July, paraded the French standing army of "three hundred and fifty thousand men, fully equipped and exercised, with a large body of cavalry and artillery; and the National Guards besides, so well trained, disciplined, clothed, and insured to military figures;" and Sir ROBERT Peel begged the House of Commons to remark that the votes for the British army and navy had been increased in the session not less than eleven hundred thousand pounds sterling. The French editors rather underestimate the invalid pensioners and local constabulary added in the House of Commons as a reliance against invasion. Ireland and Canada, and Algeria, and Paris require enough of the military re-

sources and political solicitude of each Government to maintain the *entente cordiale*. The sixty thousand regular troops of the Spanish rulers are barely sufficient to afford them some assurance against internal plots and outbreaks of Progressists, Esparterists, and Carlists.

MULLER, of Berlin, has been elected by the French Academy of Sciences a corresponding member—section of Zoology. He is Professor of Anatomy and Physiology in the University, and known by his various and excellent works to all students of the physical sciences.

According to letters from Brazil, the district granted in the province of St. Catharine is a dowry to the Princess of JOINVILLE is about to be cultivated and rendered richly productive, by free laborers engaged for the purpose. Forests and precious mines are to be turned to account; dock-yards formed; rice, coffee, sugar to abound; and it is to be seen what free labor can effect on the borders of two tropical slave regions. *Nous verrons*.

The quarrel between the bar and the press in England is specially noticed in the French journals. Here, the aristocracy of the ink-born have greater pretensions still than in England; and of course if English bar-mess, which excluded brethren who reported trials, has been utterly condemned. A lawyer in the *Chronicle*, defending the mess in question, argues in this strain:

"The prohibition to receive less than guinea fees, and to travel by stage coaches, are conditions equally exclusive, and for now imposed, on individual interests than the prohibition to report trials; but these have been found essential to maintain the status and respectability of the body who have adopted them."

In days of yore, travelling in stage coaches, or on horseback with saddle-bags—even refusing less than a guinea fee—would have been thought, in America, monstrous grounds of proscription.

Last week a manufacturer of enamel was arraigned in Paris at the Court of Assizes for an attempt to poison two rivals in trade. A distinguished manufacturer of chemical products appeared as a witness to his general character. The Attorney General said to the witness: "You took pains to marry the accused—to provide him with a good match. You must have known that for two years he kept under his roof as his concubine a married woman, who has been succeeded by his servant; witness in the same relation." "Certainly," answered the witness, "but these are peccadilloes common with bachelors, once married, they quit the last courses of youth, and lead another kind of life." This view of matters was thought quite reasonable. The enamelist was acquitted, after five hours' deliberation, by the jury: some circumstances raised a strong presumption of his guilt. A number of his relatives and intimates rushed forward to embrace him, and the servant woman, *Mme. Catherine*, his acknowledged mistress of the day, instantly sealed the benches and hugged her master and lover, *avec effusion*. No scandal seemed to be taken on any side. Such incidents exemplify or illustrate morals and manners.

LOUIS PHILIPPE is still rusticated in his domain of Eo. His long walks and rides and excursions in steamers, related in the journals, disprove some Radical and Legitimist paragraphs representing him as seriously ill.

## NEW ROUTE PROPOSED FOR STEAMERS.

We understand that, under the authority granted by an act of the last Congress to the Post Office Department to employ steamers to carry the mails to European ports, a proposition has been submitted to the Postmaster General to take another route than the usual one by the way of Newfoundland, &c. We do not profess to be acquainted with the subject, and cannot undertake to recommend the new proposition for the permanent adoption of the Post Office; but it certainly appears to us worthy of consideration and of experiment. The arguments by which it is supported are ingenious, and the source from which it emanates is of the most respectable character. It is possible that it may be found, upon the whole, the safest and best route for general navigation from America to Europe.

The proposition, submitted to the Postmaster General is to have two steamers employed, for the present, between the ports of New York or Norfolk and Lisbon. The alleged advantages of selecting the port of Lisbon are various and important, with respect both to the rapidity and security of the passage. They are—

1st. That it is the nearest and most direct frequented western European port.

2d. In case of disaster secure harbors are offered, without deviation of course, at the Azores, situated in the very track and about mid-way, where deposits of coal can be made at Fayal, so to be taken in, if needed; and

3d. There is no danger of ice.

The friends of the proposition, therefore, infer, first, that the mails will cross the Atlantic with greater speed and security at all seasons; then, secondly, that these mails can be distributed at the Lisbon General Post Office for their different destinations, to be immediately sent forward by steamers to Gibraltar, Cadiz, the Mediterranean ports, to Smyrna, Egypt, to India, and thence to China; by land to Madrid, Paris, and other interior places of Spain, France, and beyond; and, thirdly, that this correspondence will reach the above-mentioned places many days earlier, and at a cheaper rate of postage, than if carried from America to England or France; for, be it observed, letters which are mailed in England go to the enumerated countries via Lisbon, where mails are regularly made up and taken by steamers to those ports.

It is urged, besides, that the situation of Lisbon, from whence a railroad is to be made with all convenient dispatch to the frontier of Spain, and probably at an early future day to Madrid itself, and perhaps beyond, ought to be selected as the most convenient point of general rendezvous for travellers to all parts of Europe, Asia, and Africa; for there are periodical departures of steamers to and from England, France, and Spain, and to and from the ports of the Mediterranean, &c.

It is said, too, that this increased intercourse with Portugal would necessarily give abundance of freight, both for the outward and inward passage, and hence revive the drooping commerce between the two countries, which occurred in consequence of the long-established and direct trade, which will continue without interruption, between England, France, and the United States.

Its friends allege that there is no doubt that these American vessels, when subjected to no higher port charges or other expenses in the port of Lisbon than are paid by steam packets of other nations, but that all would be treated in every respect alike.—Union.

The brig which came in collision with the steamer *Georgia* on Tuesday morning last, as the latter was on her passage up from Norfolk, (as previously reported,) was the *Canton*, of Brunswick, Maine, from Havre de Grace, bound to Boston, with 300 tons pig iron on board. She was off Poplar Island light, (about the past two o'clock,) and was struck by the *Georgia*, and so badly stove as to cause her to sink in fifteen minutes with every person (five in all) on board. The captain and mate, both brothers, afterwards ascended the rigging, such being their presence of mind, and reached the tow-boat, which was only a few feet above water, and there remained until after dark, when they were taken in with by a lay craft coming up the bay, which took them off, and they reached here last evening. The three men were drowned. Their names are Elijah Jordan, foreigner, Wm. Woods, of Maryland, aged about 17 or 18 years,